

Miracles do not happen

I used to believe that miracles do exist, neglecting hard work, thinking that the stress on the competition grounds will work miracle for me, hoping that somehow I will naturally be equipped with the best technique when I am under stress. Thus, I did not bother to train during trainings, stuck in my imagination of myself up the podium, gold medalist, until that day when miracles all shattered.

That day in the year 2009 was my first National School Track and Field Championships representing Nanyang. I participated in the C division Discus. I strut out of the call room, my head held high, listening to the supporters on the spectators stand cheering for us. I could feel my eagerness for the medal.

Finally, my turn came. I walked in to the area confidently, and did what I had to do, waiting for that miracle. To my dismay, my distance was not what I have expected, only 17.57 meters. I panicked. This distance was not even enough for me to get into top 8! The second attempt was nothing better.

Finally, it was my last attempt. I was extremely desperate. I prayed that miracles will happen as I pinned all my hopes on this attempt. I need at least 19.5 meters to bring me into top 8. Yet I failed, with a mere distance of 18.29 meters, only enough to rank me ninth. The top 8 competitors stayed for another 3 throws while I had to leave. As I trudged back, the sun seemed to be burning, my mind was blank. I sank onto the cold seat at the spectators stands, wanting to cry, but my tears failed me. Unable to hear the victorious cries beside me, unable to hear chattering of the crowd, unable to see, I stoned for what seemed eternity. Then, I thought to myself. I should pick myself up. I should train harder. I should not have believed in miracles and yet neglected reality.

I am glad that I woke up in merely a year's time, before I could leave too much regret. I forgot about miracles, and trained hard. When others did 100 push-ups, I did 150; when others ran 200 meters, I ran 400 meters; others trained for 3 days, I trained for 4. Little by little, I build up my skills up. In the year 2010, I represented my school again, this time, more humble, more prepared. I finally brought myself and the team to glory, attaining a bronze medal for C division Discus. Miracles will never happen, will never help me, but hard work will never fail to bring to nearer and nearer to my peak.